HIS

MAJESTIES DECLARAION

To the Honourable Houſe of Commons, drawn up by the conſent of the LORDS and COMMONS that are now attending His Royall Majeſty, according to His *Majeſties Deſires.*

Wherein is expreſſed His Majeſties Reſolution to all His loving Subjects, concerning the two Armies, which are now ready to meet.

Together with Joyfull Newes from *Hereford*, concerning a Meſſage ſent from His Majeſty to the E. of Eſſex, and the true Proceedings of the Parliament forces at the ſaid City, *October the* 8.

October the 11.

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A DECLARATION FOR PEACE:

Agreed upon by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, and the Lords and Commons that are now attending His Royall Person.

THE Kings most Sacred Majesty having for a long time beheld the Distractions of this Kingdome of *ENGLAND*, and having with unspeakable Grief of heart seriously considered the great Miseries that are like to befall this Nation, by bringing in a Civill Warre: Therefore His Gracious Majesty out of the sacred Thoughts arising from His Royall Breast, resolved to send these following Propositions to the Honourable Court of *PARLIAMENT*, for the compo-

sing of these unhappy Differences betwixt His Majestie & both Houses of Parliament (though pursued by us with all zeale and sincerity) have been hitherto without that successe wee hoped for. Yet such is our constant and earnest care to preserve the publique Peace, that we shall not be discouraged from using any expedient, which by the blessing of the God of mercy may lay a firme foundation of peace and happinesse to all our subjects. To this end observing that many mistakes have arisen by the Messages, Petitions and Answers betwixt us and our two Houses of Parliament, which happily may be prevented by some other way of Treatie, wherein the matter in difference may be more clearely understood, and more freely transacted; VVee have thought fit to propound to you, that some fit persons may be by you inabled to treat with the like number to be authorized by us, in such a manner, and with such freedome of Debate, as may best tend to that happy conclusion which all good men desire, *The peace of the Kingdome*; VVherein as wee promise in the word of a King all safety and encouragement to such as shall be sent to us, if you shall chuse the place where we are for the Treaty, (which we wholly leave to you) presuming of the like care of the safety of those we shall imploy, if you shall name another place; So we assure you and all our good subjects, that (to the best of our understand-

ing) nothing shall be therein wanting on our part, which may advance the true Protestant Religion, oppose Popery and Superstition, secure the Laws of the Land (upon which is built as well our just Prerogative, as the Property and Liberty of the Subject) confirme all just Power and Privi'edges of Parliament, And render us and our people truly happy by a good understanding betwixt us and our two houses of Parliament. Bring with you as firme Resolutions to do your duty, and let all our good people joyne with us in our Prayers to Almighty God for his blessing upon this worke.

If this Proposition shall be received by you, We have done our dutie so ample that God will absolve us from the guilt of any of that blood which must be spilt, and what opinion soevet other men may have of our power, wee assure you nothing but our Christian and Pious care to prevent the effusion of blood hath begot this motion, our provision of men, Armes and Money, being such as may secure us from further violence, till it please God to open the eyes of our people.

A perfect Description of a great Battle fought at Hereford, October 8.

Upon the 8. of this month of *October*, his Excellency the Earl of *Essex*, according to the Desires of the well affected Party in the City of *Hereford*, sent one thousand Foot and four troops of Horse to the said City, to disarme the Malignant Party, and to settle that City in a good posture of Defence, and to execute the Ordnance of *PARLIAMENT*.

But so soon as the Malignants had information that the *Parliament* Forces were comming, they immediately gathered a Head, and put themselves in a posture of Warre, being in number about 1300. and marched out of the City two miles, billeting there till their Adversaries came.

And at the first appearance of our Forces, the Malignant Army began to advance neer them, and they were no sooner come within Musket shot of each

each other, but they immediately fell to blowes, discharging very furiously till one of our Troops of Horse burst in upon the Enemies left wing, doing much harme in the execution of their Desires, killing and wounding divers of the Cavaleers.

But at the last that Troop retreated from the enemy, and came to our Forces, with very little or no losse, and about half an hour after Captain Crofts fell upon the Reer of the enemy with his Troop doing great execution upon the Cavaleers, and brought on his men with such puissant courage, that they after four or 5. hours skirmish put the enemy to flight, killing and wounding about 25. with the losse of 3. or 4. men.

Then the Parliament Forces seeing they durst not stand foot, pursued them into the City, and disarmed all those that stood ill affected to the King and Parliament.

Thus hath they cleansed that City of the Cavaleers, and hath left a strong

Garrison

Garrison therein, for the preservation and safety of those parts.

There was Letters upon Saterday last came to the House of Commons from *Hereford*, intimating that his Majesty hath sent a Trumpeter to the E. of *Essex* to parley of some matters, but concerning what, is not as yet known.

Newes came to the House out of *Yorkshire*, that Sir *John Hotham* disclaimed any consent or agreement to the Articles of peace between the Earl of of *Comberland* and the Lord *Fairefax* and the rest of the Gentry of the County of *York*: And that since the said agreement Captain *Hotham* with his Forces took the Town of *Selby*, and hath stopped the passage to *Yorke*, and taken a strong Castle called *Keywood* belonging to the Bishop of that Diocesse, and resolves to maintain his Majesties Prerogative, the Rights and Priviledge of Parliament, the Lawes of the Kingdom, and the Liberty and propriety of the subject.

FINIS.